

**JOINT POWERS BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

Members Present: Dave Baumgart, Andy Boersma, Bill Borth, Matt Dawson, Scott Guptill, Audrey Nelsen, Pablo Obregon, Lynn Peterson, Rachel Skretvedt, Darin Strand

Staff Present: Steve Brisendine, Rob Baumgarn, Laura Morales, Tammy Rudningen, Becky Sorenson, Jena Tollefson, Ann Trochlil, Pam Versteeg, Jodi Wambeke

Guest Present: Kal Torkelson

In the absence of Chairman Eric Banks, Vice Chairman Darin Strand opened the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves.

Darin then called on Kal Torkelson from the West Central Builders Association to present his request to the Board. Mr. Torkelson asked the Board to approve a temporary liquor permit for the Association Home Show at the Arena. The event will be attended by the participants of the Show and liquor will be served by The Oaks(who is state licensed provider). It will not be open to the public. Dave Baumgart made a motion to approve the request, Scott Guptill seconded and the motion carried.

Darin informed the Board that he, Steve, Audrey and Liz had finalized the job description for the Joint Powers Board. A review of the description followed. Some of the main points include: members are expected to participate in the work of Community Ed & Rec services; time commitment is a 3 year term with a limit of two terms – terms start January and end December 31. Board also has a responsibility to attend meetings regularly or to notify the Office if unable to attend; review agenda items; seek community input; improve communications between CER and community groups, participate in sub committees; assist staff in utilizing community resources.

Employment with CER, City of Willmar and Willmar School District will be considered conflicts of interest. Andy Boersma questioned what would happen if you are appointed by the City and move out of the City. Steve responded that he felt as long as you were in the School District; he was okay with the person remaining on the Board but that would be an issue for policy makers to decide.

Pablo Obregon asked how often this document would be reviewed. Steve said he felt this would be used in the future when recruiting new members, thus it would be utilized annually.

Creating sub-committees for the Joint Powers Board was agreed upon by the members. The suggested sub-committees are: Finance, Program and Facility. Members on the Finance Committee would be Steve, Audrey Nelsen and Liz VanDerBill along with leadership of the JP Board.

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This committee would be needed during the yearly budget process. The Program Committee would help staff with planning upcoming/evaluating programs. The Facility Committee would develop an understanding of how the facilities operate, and would lend a hand to staff in developing policies and fee schedules for facility use. The School District is in the process of gaining support for the School Bond Referendum, this is one area that this committee could be helpful. The City Council just approved the park plan and this committee could be very helpful in advancing this process.

Pablo Obregon suggested that it might be a good idea to have a plan that all subcommittees meet in a uniform way.

Rachel Skretvedt asked if the timeline would allow for entry into the Spring/Summer brochure. Tammy Rudningen responded that there was about a week left before the dead-line. Ann mentioned on-line and social media; we can spread the word about classes/activities that did not make the brochure.

Scott Guptill spoke about the Novice Bonspiel on March 13-15. There are 20 teams so far. He invited everyone to attend the event or make up a team and join in the fun.

City Council Updates: Audrey Nelsen said she was very glad that the Park Plan passed. She has received questions from constituents regarding implementation and staffing. She also complimented Troy on a good movie night at the Arena. There were about 350 attendees.

Matt Dawson asked what the next step is in the Park Plan. Will it be attached to the Comprehensive Plan? Rachel Skretvedt said she thought that the sub-committees would be a good step in forming a park plan. Lynn Peterson asked if there was a lot of money available through grants and who would write the grants. There would be opportunities for staff to write grants and to consult the consultants. The first step is to create priorities, labeling most important #1, #2 etc. Steve stated he thought grants would be more available for Robbins Island and Ramblewood.

Andy Boersma asked if it was possible to get a total cost before creating a priority list. Steve responded that SRF has calculated the cost to be around 22 million, projecting to spend \$500,000-750,000 per year. Rachel Skretvedt stated we should start small and get the public's support. Audrey Nelsen mentioned a sales tax increase as a possibility of raising funds. The Library addition, the Arena connection and the trail improvements were all completed with sales tax increase in the past.

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After much discussion, Rachel Skretvedt made a motion that there should be a Park Plan sub-committee. Andy Boersma seconded. Pablo Obregon wondered if sub committees would limit participant's role. Andy Boersma said he felt that sub committees should be able to discuss and make decisions to present to the Joint Powers Board. Audrey Nelsen asked if we should have someone present at the School Board's Bond Referendum to give us more information. Dave Baumgart suggested amending Rachel Skretvedt's motion about creating a park plan subcommittee to create four sub-committees (Finance, Facility, Program and Park). Motion passed. Rachel Skretvedt asked how soon Steve wanted names regarding members' preferences for subcommittee assignments. Steve said he would like that info as soon as possible to have subcommittees formed by the next Board meeting.

Pablo Obregon stated he had been asked by residents regarding the Board's stance on the School referendum and he questioned how he should respond. The consensus of the Board was to support the referendum but that any response should be from an individual not the whole board.

Tammy Rudningen handed out program packets and asked Board Members to consider offering a class or giving the packet to individuals they feel may be interested in offering a class.

Steve informed the Board of Brad Bonks resignation and said this position has been posted. Interviews have been set up for March 16 and 17. Audrey Nelsen stated that we need to have someone replace Brad on the 2040 committees that he served on.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be March 27.